



# City of Cincinnati

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **GCWW PROPOSES ON-SITE LIME RESIDUAL BASIN AT BOLTON PLANT IN FAIRFIELD**

Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) has proposed an on-site lime residual basin at its Bolton Treatment Plant in Fairfield. Lime is added to soften the water during the water treatment process and then recaptured as a by-product. Plans for the basin have been approved by the Hamilton to New Baltimore Groundwater Consortium and by the City of Fairfield Planning Commission. Fairfield City Council is expected to vote on a permit for the facility tonight, October 28, 2002.

For more than 15 years, GCWW lime residual has been placed on former gravel pit property about 600 feet from the proposed site. This was operating during the development of neighboring subdivisions, including the Monastery Subdivision. According to Paul Tomes, Chief Engineer for GCWW, there have been no complaints about odor or aesthetic concerns regarding the gravel pit site. "No one seemed to be aware of the existing site presently being used to deposit the lime," Tomes said. Space at this site is nearly exhausted. The new proposal would allow GCWW to meet its needs for up to 30 years.

"The proposed lime residual basin will not be visible from homes or the road," Tomes said. "In fact, we have agreed to a 1000-foot wide densely wooded area between the basin site and the nearest home." The proposed basin is not a sanitary landfill. The lime residual contains no odors or toxicity, making it an ideal material to deposit in this manner. It will cause no harm to the environment. An added advantage of having the basin on plant property is that the material would not be transported on public roads. When the basin is full, the area will be reclaimed through soil restoration and planting.

The Greater Cincinnati Water Works is committed to maintaining the Bolton Water Treatment Plant property in as close to its natural state as possible and to preserving the groundwater quality of the Great Miami Aquifer below the property. By doing so, GCWW can continue to provide the highest quality product possible to customers. The GCWW Bolton Plant has treated water from the Great Miami Aquifer since 1976 to provide drinking water primarily to northwestern Hamilton County.

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